

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

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Michael Ferrier - murdered by three white men in the fourth racist murder in East London in eight months.



Black protest sets up self-defence group

NO MORE RACIST MURDERS

Two weeks before Christmas a black youth, Michael Ferrier was murdered in Stoke Newington Road by three white men who had shouted National Front slogans at him and his friends.

This was the fourth known racist murder in Hackney and Tower Hamlets in the last eight months. Already there has been a storm of protest about this attack. 150 people attended a protest meeting at which a Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation was formed.

At about 1.30am on Sunday 10 December six black youths were walking past the Astra Cinema in Stoke Newington. They were returning from a party. Three of them stopped to get a drink and the other three waited. While these three were waiting, three white men walked past on the other side of the road. They stopped and shouted National Front slogans at the black youths, two of whom decided to move off to avoid any aggravation. One of them, Michael Ferrier, decided to stand his ground. The three white thugs crossed the road, and one stabbed Michael in

the chest. He fell and the three ran away.

Michael's friends returned and carried him the short distance to Stoke Newington Police Station. They arrived there at 2am. The police began to question the others about what they were doing out at that time and didn't seem very interested in Michael bleeding to death. It took 45 minutes for an ambulance to arrive. (Shoreditch Ambulance Station is less than ten minute's drive away.)

Michael was eventually taken to St. Leonard's Hospital where he died at 4am.



Protesters in Ridley Road market just before Christmas. Many signatures were collected for a petition against the recent racist attacks. photo Ernie Greenwood.

A meeting to protest at Michael's death was held on 21 December. It was attended by about 150 people, including many young West Indians. So disgusted were many people at the lack of protection that they received from the police that they decided to set up the Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation.

This has decided to concentrate on activities to inform the public about the lack of police protection and the frequency with which black people are harassed by them. Public meetings are being held regularly every Saturday in Ridley Road market, and signatures are being collected for a petition.

A picket of Dalston Lane

police station has been called for Saturday 20 January, at 11 am. Simultaneously pickets will be at police stations in Tower Hamlets and Newham, to protest at police action there.

Pickets are also attending every appearance in court by the three men accused of Michael Ferrier's murder. They are due to appear next at Highbury Court on Friday 12 January.

For further details contact Hackney CRE, 245 Mare Street, E8. (986 4121.)

STOP PRESS... Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation has called for the day of Michael's funeral to be a day of mourning. Details from Hackney CRE - see above.

a month in strike pay. There is a strong feeling now that the union will jump at the chance to sell the social workers out and go completely against their mandate to support demands for local negotiations.

Meanwhile Hackney's residential social workers, who work in hostels for the mentally ill, disturbed children and old people, are refusing new admissions into their homes in support of their claim for increased pay. They currently receive much less than field social workers, even if they are not living in their hostel. The lowest grade care officer in Hackney receives just £2300 per year. Those who live in are then charged £459 per year board and lodging, which is deducted from their salary. NALGO is currently seeking an increase for the residential social workers and calling for the right to local negotiations.

this was not a local negotiation. And now they have come up with an offer which is better than the Hackney social workers accepted - yet the union is continuing to give official support to the strike.

The only way all this makes sense is that NALGO is now trying to avoid making any further major decisions before 10 January, when the working party set up jointly by NALGO and the employers is expected to come up with a new national structure for determining social workers pay.

If this structure is thought to be workable in any way then the NALGO national executive will accept this as a basis for negotiation, and will withdraw official support for all the striking social workers throughout the country. Some 3,000 are now on strike, from 13 local authorities, and this is costing the union £1 million

a negotiation conducted at local level - which is what the social workers wanted.

NALGO is committed to local negotiations, however, and has supported social workers up and down the country who have been demanding this. In the case of Hackney there has been no local negotiation - yet the union refused to make any strike official.

This decision has been followed by a totally inconsistent decision about the dispute in Islington. There the social workers were given support for their strike, which started on 1 December. Islington Council also agreed to do a job evaluation and, as with Hackney, insisted that

NALGO to sell out Social Workers

It is now certain that Hackney social workers will not join their colleagues in the neighbouring boroughs of Islington and Tower Hamlets on strike for better pay and conditions. This has happened despite an overwhelming vote by the social workers against the Council's offer of "job evaluation" when the workers' union, NALGO, decided that they would not give official support to any strike.

The result is that the Council has agreed to a regrading of Hackney social workers' pay, which does make some improvement on their situation. The Council made it clear to them that this improved pay structure was not

INSIDE

MILES LEGGETT and his controversial Council question. We report the background to the Council meeting where 23 members defied the Labour whip to vote against one of their own number.

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WILL HACKNEY find the £2 million that voluntary groups want? Applications for partnership money have exceeded the money available by almost £2 million. Many voluntary groups are obviously going to be disappointed. But which ones will win out, and how much say will the voluntary groups have in the way their money is allocated?

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INSIDE THE "HACKNEY GAZETTE". All the journalists are on strike at the Hackney Gazette. Yet the editor is continuing to bring the paper out on his own, and write stories about events he didn't go to. We look at wonderman Messer's Gazette - and wonder ourselves whether anyone has noticed.

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WHEN I WALK THE STREETS of these foreign lands. A new poem from a member of Hackney Writers' workshop.

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THE HACKNEY GASBAG - HPP's very own kids page. Caning, thriller serial, lots of jokes.

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letters

Family Planning class bias

Dear HPP,

Having recently moved into the area, I registered as a new patient at my nearest Family Planning Clinic, which happens to be in Richmond Road.

When asked for my occupation, along with other routine information, I said that I was a community worker.

I discussed with the doctor who saw me the relative merits of different contraceptive methods; the Pill, IUD and diaphragm, since I am becoming increasingly dissatisfied with the alternatives available. The doctor said that she believed the diaphragm, used properly was almost as effective as the other methods and lacked the attendant risks to health.

"WORKING CLASS TOO STUPID"

She commented that many younger women were choosing it in preference to the Pill or IUD. She went on to say that the sort of women who attended that particular FPC were predominantly working class and therefore too stupid to use the diaphragm effectively. I gathered from this that she would not present it as a reasonable alternative to her 'working-class' patients.

This incident appalled me, not only because of the assumption made by one professional person that all others would share her prejudices, but more significantly, because it is indicative of the values that operate in FPCs - and

amongst doctors. This particular doctor was more candid than others - many would share her views, even if they would not articulate them.

We have free family planning services but freedom of choice is obviously still a long way off, particularly if you happen to be female, working class and you live in Hackney.

Address supplied

Hackney v. GLC Housing

Dear H.P.P.

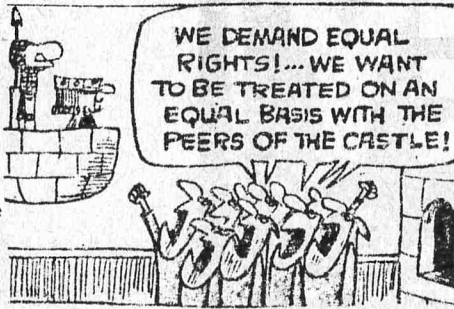
My federation is naturally most concerned over the rumpus which is going on between Hackney Borough Council and the G.L.C. We view with much concern the statements being put forward by the Hackney Borough Council on this issue.

Naturally as a Federation it is our paramount duty to represent the interests of all our tenants - G.L.C., Borough Council and even private tenants.

We do take umbrage to certain remarks put out by Councillor Charles Cable, Chairman of the H.B.C. Housing Management Committee, in the national press depicting the G.L.C. estates not only as rubbish, run down, but also as estates of social problems meaning of course delinquents and problem families etc.

We are fully aware of the fact that many G.L.C. Estates are run down and tantamount to ghettos. But surely this is equally the case on many Borough Council Estates.

We say both are guilty for this situation in that neither the G.L.C. or the Borough Council fought against the Labour Government's cuts in Housing expenditure, and it was a Labour G.L.C. at that period.



However we the Federation have a policy on this issue of the take over, which is different from the Local Council's agreements which in the main lean towards slurs and abuse of the Tenants residing on the G.L.C. Estates. Whatever the outcome of this Battle which in some ways is a sham one, the Federation will defend the interest of all our Tenants, to ensure they are not going to be the scapegoats in this argument.

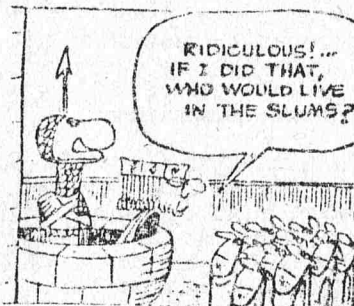
We are anticipating the calling of a local conference of both G.L.C. and Council Tenants early in the New Year, to put forward our policy on the issue, which includes practical proposals serving the interest of all Tenants involved.

It's not a battle of words, of charges and counter charges, it's a question of what's best for our Tenants as a whole.

One thing is quite clear - it's a matter for full and proper discussion as to how such a policy will effect the well being of all our Tenants, whoever the landlord may be, and Councils are landlords.

Your Sincerely,

Bob Darke.
Joint Secretary
Federation of Hackney
Tenants Associations.



Stamford Hill Repairs

The G.L.C. is a slum landlord; problems of dampness, infestation, inadequate refuse disposal system and water returning up the drainage system exists on the Stamford Hill Estate.

Callous and unlawful treatment of tenants who face major repairs and package improvements takes place. Tenants are expected to endure dangerous conditions and noise levels described as "horrendous" by a medical authority. Safe levels of noise which would not be considered a hazard (unlike-ly to cause impairment to hearing) is 70db for children under two years and 80db for adults, a reading of 119db was recorded when work in progress on the estate. Impairment to hearing may have taken place, hearing tests should be carried out to see if it has. Can the G.L.C. be made to act in a safe a proper manner?

Flats on the estate are being "package improved" to cure inbuilt faults. Condensation is rife through non-porous plaster, tiled floors and in adequate ventilation. Solution to this is an ambient heat in the G.L.C. package improvement.

An ambient heat in the form of central heating is being provided, (to overcome structural problems). But the cost of improvements is to be borne by tenants through additional rent, rent and heating bills.

A proposal that the issue be subject to a survey by an independent agency and both sides consider the result was turned down by the G.L.C.

Tenants are treated as pawns in an inhuman game, being played by the G.L.C.

Hackney Council have been of great assistance to the tenants, I hope they will use their full powers under the public health and housing acts to ensure G.L.C. attains standards expected of any landlord.

Rehabilitation of the estate with provision of adequate ancillary amenities should be referred to the inner city officers steering group for their guidance.

A Tenant.



Wasted Space Council Offer

The Council has recently carried out a survey of vacant land in the borough and has found some 330 sites altogether. They make up a total of about 110 acres. At least half of this is owned by public bodies and about one-tenth by the Council itself.

Quite a lot is scheduled for future use, especially for housing, but a lot is lying empty, and has nothing planned for it at all. So, if you have some ideas, then you could suggest them to the Council.

According to Geoffrey Coulter of the Council: "Small groups of people could instead of moaning about a derelict piece of land get financial help and expertise from us to transform it into an open space or an allotment."

So, if you have any ideas, take him up on his suggestion: write to Geoffrey Coulter, Town Hall Annexe, Mare Street, E8. And let HPP know what you are doing and how you get on.

SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR ONE PARENT FAMILIES IN HACKNEY

A new "Survival Guide" for one-parent families in Hackney has been produced by the National Council for One Parent Families and Centerprise.

It is available free from Centerprise and other bookshops and is full of information on where to go for basic services and advice. It should be invaluable to single parents in the borough - and outside.

Some of the subjects covered are Health and Pregnancy, Further Education, Accommodation, Money, Care and Legal Matters. All of these affect the single mother or father more drastically than the two-parent family, and this new guide will help to ease this burden considerably.



THE LEGGETT AFFAIR LINGERS LONG

After several months of simmering behind the Labour Party's closed doors the Miles Leggett affair burst back into the open again at the Council's December meeting just before Christmas. Councillor Leggett enraged the entire Council in September by a question that he had asked in a debate, when he referred to a decision to offer council housing to some refugees from fascist dictatorships in Latin America and asked whether the same facilities would be offered to white refugees from Rhodesia. This question delighted a crowd of about 30 National Front supporters in the public gallery, who cheered his every word, unfurled a large banner reading 'Charity begins at home' and caused such a disruption that they eventually had to be evicted by the police.

Since then there has been a lot of discussion in the Labour Party as to what to do with Leggett. The first move came soon after this episode when Haggerston ward branch, which Leggett belongs to, had a motion put before it recommending Leggett's expulsion from the party. However there was no overall majority for this motion and so it fell. Leggett had invited Councillor Shuja Shaikh, chairperson of Hackney Muslim Council, to speak in his defence to this meeting and there is no doubt that this swayed the meeting considerably.

PARTY LINE

The Labour Group on Hackney Council has no power to expel any member from the party. It can, however, remove the 'whip' from Councillors who defy the party line on any issue. It is hard to define what the significance of the whip means when there are 59 Labour

councillors and only one Tory. The Group also has the power to discipline members in other ways, by removing them from positions of influence, and this is what some Councillors thought should happen to Leggett. Although regarded as a maverick by the right-wing establishment who control the Council he tends to vote their way, and has thus been rewarded with the role of vice-chairperson of the Social Services Committee. Those councillors who form the 'Broad Left' in the Labour group wanted him removed from this position and they proposed a motion of 'no confidence' in him. This was defeated after a very stormy group meeting, which ended with most of the Broad Left walking out, when it became apparent that John Kotz, who is acting as leader while Martin Ottolanguis is ill, was not going to permit any disciplinary action to be taken by the Group.

The Broad Left were not satisfied. Many of them felt that Leggett has not been publicly called to account for his action in the September Council meeting. Therefore they proposed a motion to the December meeting in the hope that the cover-up being operated by the leadership would be publicly exposed.

"RACIALIST SPEECHES"

The motion was proposed by Patrick Kodikara who began by describing the context of Leggett's outburst. Racist speeches by leading politicians had always led to outbreaks of racial violence, he said. He cited Enoch Powell's 'rivers of blood' speech in 1968, Margaret Thatcher's talk earlier that year of the danger of Britain being 'swamped by an alien culture'. Both of these had led to serious racial tension and violence directed at the black and Asian communities.

It was the duty of the Labour Party to condemn those in responsible positions who make racist speeches of this nature. Here was an openly racist speech from one of Hackney's front bench councillors, he said, and it was not being condemned by the Council.

Gerry Ross, who represents Queensbridge, the same ward as Leggett, said that it was a very sad day for him, having to second this motion. He reminded the Council that the September meeting had earlier been discussing an emergency motion condemning the National Front and pledging the strongest measures to get the new NF headquarters out of the borough. He said that Leggett had stayed out of the Council chamber while this motion was being discussed, and did not come in, even to cast his vote. The NF in the gallery were obviously prepared with a special banner, to disrupt the council meeting, and were just waiting for an appropriate moment. He was not suggesting that there was any collusion involved but it seemed strange that they should wait until so late in the meeting, when Leggett first spoke.

APPLAUDED BY FASCISTS

He concluded by saying that he was appalled that anyone called himself a sincere democrat could have his speech applauded by fascists. He said that if anything he himself ever said was agreed with by fascists he would immediately sit down.

John Kotz began his speech by acknowledging the deep division between left and right in the Labour Group. As far as his side was concerned, he said, there was only going to be one speech, and that was coming from him. He thought that the question of what to do with Leggett was a question for the Labour Group, which

had its own internal discipline, and so he had not wanted to discuss this in public. He thought that the content of Leggett's speech was inappropriate but he challenged whether it was really a racist speech.

Soon after Kotz had finished speaking the right brought in the trick that everyone had been expecting. Arthur Taylor, the Labour whip, moved that the meeting should go on to next business. This was a procedural dodge to avoid taking a direct vote on the motion of no confidence in Leggett.

PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE

Taylor is particularly good in his job as whip since he gets to his feet and starts speaking even before he is called by the Mayor. He also carries on speaking, as though programmed whatever happens after he has stood up, oblivious to what is going on around him, and takes no notice until he gets to the end of his pre-recorded message, when he stands stock still, his beard jutting and a defiant gleam in his eye, as though waiting for a Good Boy choc drop. The heavens could collapse around him, you feel, but you know that Taylor will get through whatever complicated procedural motion Kotz and his crew have put him up to.

The Broad Left were obviously unhappy about not being allowed to vote directly on the motion of no confidence in Leggett. However, they made it plain that they were treating the motion of 'next business' as a vote of no confidence and forced a division. This meant that a recorded vote had to be taken and each councillor had, in effect, to record whether or not he or she was voting for or against Leggett. The whip was 'on', which meant that only those who were

prepared to stand up to group discipline defied the whip. As it was, 23 Councillors did this and voted 'against' Leggett. These included the Mayor, Sam Cohen. There were 32 votes for him. As they have all, technically, broken the group's rules, which means that they could all be called to account by the right-wing. However Kotz is unlikely to attempt any such heavy tactics now.

ANTI-MAYOR

Two further interesting points have occurred recently in Council. One is the almost open war that the leadership and the right-wing have declared against Mayor Sam Cohen. They quibble with every decision he makes and constantly rebuke him on points of order. When he presented a report on his first six months in office there was audible hissing and sighing as they expressed their displeasure at his attempt to justify what he has been doing as a 'working' mayor.

The second interesting development is the jockeying for power now it seems that Martin Ottolanguis' illness will prevent him resuming the leadership. It is unlikely that Kotz will take over permanently, experienced Council-watchers say. Is it significant that Bob Masters sits almost permanently next to Kotz in Ottolanguis' chair now? It could be. Most of the rest of the 'front bench' are too drab or too lightweight to take over as leader. Bob Masters could never be called either. He is prone to making jokey speeches and writing facetious letters to the Gazette. (We even printed a poem of his once in HPP.) But behind all that, there lurks a shrewd politician and it certainly looks now as though he is putting down his mark.

BAD DEAL FOR VOLUNTARY GROUPS

The final date for voluntary groups to submit applications for Partnership funds passed on November 24th of last year. Out of the £2.95m that our council will be receiving during 1979/80 only £315,000 has been allocated to the voluntary sector. The number of applications from this sector gives a clear indication that this allocation is completely inadequate; altogether some 75 organisations applied for funds which totalled £24m. This was the feeling of the last full meeting of People in Partnership on December 6th. The meeting was well attended and at the end the following motion was passed; "In the light of the overwhelming response from the voluntary sector, and in view of the insufficiency of funds available both for the voluntary sector, and for Partnership as a whole, this open meeting requests that all applications for Partnership funds, statutory and voluntary,

are jointly considered on their merits without prior reference to the allocation of funds by proportion to the various sectors." This resolution raises some important points. The Government White Paper called "A Policy for the Inner City" that introduced the Partnership Schemes in 1977, places emphasis on the need to draw on the ideas of local residents to discover their priorities and enable them to

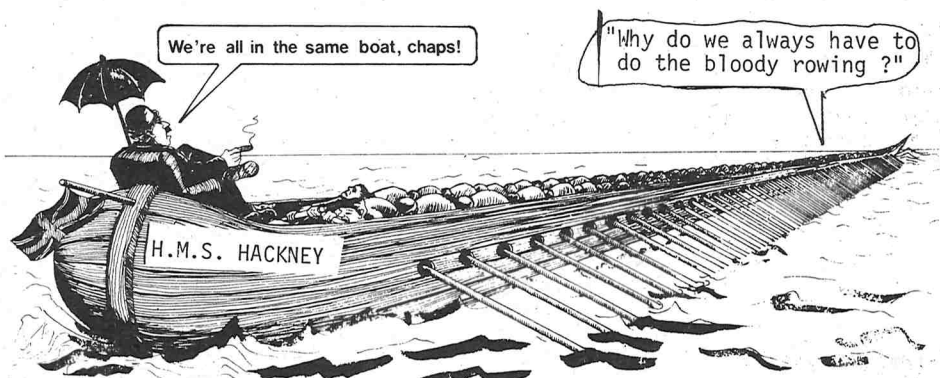
play a practical part.

Little Consultation so far.

In order to formulate their ideas the voluntary sector have formed "People in Partnership". But this isn't enough if the voluntary sector are going to make a significant contribution to deciding where the funds should go. In the first place, the amount of

money going to the voluntary sector was decided upon without them being consulted in any way. The original "Themes and priorities" paper that gave an outline of what the funds would be used for was also made without consultation, and indeed the voluntary groups did not even have this paper made available to them at the first public meeting, almost a year ago. The

Council Officers Conception of "Partnership".



voluntary sector have representatives on only the two lower tiers of the four tier hierarchy that vets the applications and makes the decisions. Even with this inadequate representation the council have been slow and reluctant in some cases to supply information about the applications and the Vetting procedures to the voluntary sector. This complaint was made known to the council in a paper produced by People in Partnership following their meeting on the 6th November.

Public Meeting

The Council held the second public meeting about Partnership in the Town Hall On December 8th. Guy Barnett, the Under-secretary of State for the Department of the Environment, and chairperson of the Partnership committee the final tier of the vetting

Contd.p.4 col.5

Messer Gazette

Journalists at the Hackney Gazette have been on strike since early December. You might feel that it would be quite difficult for the paper to continue while there is no one writing for it but it does. Why is this? The answer is quite simple - the editor, David Messer, is bringing it out all on his own, with a little help from others.

This is why the Gazette is even more patchy than usual. With no reporters working Messer has to rely on copy (sent in by court reporters and other specialists) and on the flood of material provided by the generous public. Prominent among these is obviously Hackney's local Tories, who are in the habit of submitting reports after reports. The Town Hall is co-operating with the strikers and refusing to send any statements, press releases or photographs to the Gazette, so reports that have been printed of Council affairs have almost certainly been substantially written by members of the public who have been at the meetings.

WHY IS THERE A STRIKE ?

Why are the journalists striking? For the simple reason that journalism is not a glamorous well-paid job. The average take-home wage of journalists on the Gazette is about £45 per week. Not much when you consider that there's no overtime for working evenings

or weekends. The journalists union, the NUJ, has been campaigning for years to get the wages of their non-Fleet Street members (who comprise most of the union) improved to something like a reasonable level. Provincial newspapers (and the London local papers) are nearly all highly profitable, and all could well afford to pay their journalists more. The Hackney Gazette is owned by Potters Press, a private company which also owns the Camden Chronicle and the Islington Chronicle. It is well known that all these papers make a lot of money from local advertising revenue, and so the management is desperate not to lose even one issue.

SUPPORT FOR STRIKERS

The continued production of the Potters Press papers has only been possible because the other print unions have been working normally. However some sections have been refusing to cross the NUJ picket lines. The van drivers who take the papers to the whole-salers will not do so, so the Potter brothers themselves have had to drive the vans. And when Camden Chronicle editor Fred Gold (a NUJ member) joined the strike himself, the Potters tried to make David Messer handle all the copy for the Chronicle as well.

However the typesetters refused to set Chronicle copy which had been written by Messer, so the Chronicle will not now be published.

NO DIFFERENCE IN GAZETTE

The question that must be asked is whether anyone notices that the Gazette journalists are on strike? The answer must be that most people don't. "It's really very easy for David Messer to produce the paper on his own," one journalist told HPP. "All he has to do every day is go in and open the post." And the same is true up and down the country. All local papers are so full of advertising that there's very little room for proper journalism and good writing. The Hackney Gazette is probably carrying less than its usual quota of nasty accident stories ("Arm ripped off by spin dryer", "Slipped on cat-sick and fell from balcony" etc), but that is almost certainly a good thing.

THE NEED FOR

NON-COMMERCIAL PAPERS.

If local papers carried true local news and discussed real local issues then they might be missed. but then what we would we do? Our main reason for producing a community newspaper is to try and develop a paper which is free from commercial pressures and can reflect real local opinion. That is what local journalism should be about.

RENT ARREARS-NEW DEAL POSSIBLE

The way that Hackney Council treats tenants who fall behind with their rent was criticised at the Council meeting just before Christmas. A delegation from Hackney Citizens Rights Group (HCRG) presented a case for a reappraisal of the way in which the Council's Special Housing Rent Arrears Committee works. At the moment tenants who fall into arrears are summonsed by the County Court and if a case is found against them they are considered by a meeting of this Special Committee, which decides whether to evict the tenant or make arrangements for gradual repayment of the arrears.

The HCRG felt that the way the Committee operated made it very difficult for the tenant to put his or her case very effectively. The tenant is sent a curt letter telling him or her that a meeting will be held on a certain day. "If you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity", the letter says, the tenant is at "liberty" to attend, with a Welfare Rights Officer, and offer an explanation.

HCRG suggested that a much fuller letter be sent to the tenant, telling him or her that the Committee is about to review the case, and saying which agencies might be able to help them. Organisations like HCRG, the Law Centre, the Child Poverty Action Group and the National Council for One Parent Families are permitted to represent tenants in cases like these, but tenants are not often told that this is so.

Quite often tenants who get into trouble with rent

arrears are already clients of the Council's own Social Services Department. However a social worker from the relevant district office is rarely invited to attend meetings of the Arrears Committee. HCRG felt that this was also wrong and that each district office should be given good warning of which cases were coming up, so that it could prepare a report in advance of the meeting.

Finally, HCRG felt that the Council should name special categories of tenant whom they would never evict. Some are already protected under the 1977 Homeless Persons Act, but HCRG recommended that pensioners, the mentally or physically handicapped, those recently released from prison or hospital and those who might become vagrants should be similarly protected.

The deputation met with a quite warm reception and their recommendations have been submitted to the Housing Management Committee and the Policy Committee. A change in policy by these two committees would help to ensure a fairer deal for some of Hackney's tenants.

Poverty at Centerprise

What does Third World "under-development" really mean? Who and what cause poverty in the Third World? These and similar questions will be considered in a series of six discussion/talks at Centerprise.

THE LINK BETWEEN HACKNEY AND ULSTER

Since 1969 over 1800 people have died violently in the North of Ireland.

There are hundreds of political prisoners held without trial both in England and Ireland. In Ireland Republican prisoners refuse to accept the label criminal and so they are kept with nothing to wear but a blanket, and aren't allowed out of their cells.

You might say "It's got nothing to do with us". But it has - very directly.



Since 1972 the puppet 'independent' Government of the North was abolished and direct rule from Westminster was introduced. It is the British Government which has put the troops there; we must campaign to get the troops out. (The Daily Mirror recently had an editorial proposing the withdrawal of the troops.)

The most direct connection of all, however, is that many of the soldiers who are in the North of Ireland, harassing the Catholic community are



from East London. Inner city areas have always been a good recruiting ground for the British Army, who recruit kids who can't find other work, and the army offers them "The chance to learn a useful trade". (Like firing guided missiles or repairing tanks). The army also offers a full military funeral.

Hackney People's Press is concerned that the activities of regiments which recruit people from Hackney, go unreported, and we are taking up the suggestion of the United Troops Out Movement that Hackney People's Press becomes 'twinning' with community advice centres in areas of Northern Ireland where soldiers recruited in Hackney recruit and maim.

We hope to carry reports sent to us by people who live or work where the troops operate and we hope this will help redress the silence maintained by the ruling class press. One of the regiments which recruits locally is the Royal Greenjackets. If you know anything about the job they are doing then let us know.

Red Faces at Front HQ

A little bird whispers that there is deep embarrassment at the Front's new HQ over the much publicised fracas that recently took place, when ten of their members attacked a group of people who had gathered outside. As a consequence a passer-by received severe injuries needing sixty stitches, a number of others had to have hospital treatment and four NF members face charges.

Apparently it has since been discovered that a number of young NF members decided to go and have a look at the new headquarters and were standing outside discussing the premises when the door burst open and the valiant defenders came pouring out eager to prove themselves.

According to our information everyone in the know has been told to keep tight lipped about the incident, but it would appear that some lips are tighter than others.

Searchlight December '78

The talks will concentrate on the nature of poverty in developing countries (Jan 29), population growth and food supplies (Feb 12), exports of raw materials from developing countries and the growth of manufacturing in the Third World (Feb 26), multinational companies in the Third World (March 12), the arms trade, and alternative uses for the resources devoted to arms in Britain and abroad (March 26), and the links between our standard of living in Britain and conditions in the Third World (April 12).

The talks will start at 8 p.m.

Partnership(cont.)

of applications - was at the meeting.

He spoke of a need to get down to the job of realistic consultation with voluntary groups. There were representatives from a number of local groups at the meeting. It was clear from their questions that there now exists considerable scepticism about the councils lip-service to consultation with the voluntary sector. If partnership is really going to work in Hackney as it should, the Council must be prepared to release some of their power and put it back in the hands of local people.

WHEN I WALK THE STREETS...

Fred Williams
Hackney Writer's Workshop.

When I walk the streets of
these foreign lands
and see the ways in which our
people are suffering
Loneliness, didillusionment,
frustration

Then I take a close look at
myself

Walking through the fires
And just barely getting
singed.

Naturally the mind runs back
Bringing back memories from
back-a-yard.

Bwoy ova yah China man
Talk pash name like shrimp,
prawn, king prawn

Me memba one day we ketch a
whole basket of janga

Me eat so til me have kalic

Ova yah if you na work or a
get dole mony

Yu dead fe hungry

But back a yard we have mango
fe stone dog

Beefy, blackie, velvet, hairy,
bambay, julie, east indian,
terpentine, aden,

We hav ginap, cane, june plum,
starapple, rose apple, pine-
apple,

Custard apple, all different
kind a apple

We have coconut, peanut, cashew
nut, cashew fruit,

We hav banana, guava, ole
heap of fruit nature provides

Dem da place da com een like
paradise

Compare to dis yah barrin place
yah

Ina winter it so cold

An mek yu miserable

Ina summer de tree dem green
but na bare nuttin fe eat.

Me memba how life use to be
full of fun

Game galore: chebby, hide and
find, dog and bone,

Mother and father, annancy
story, riddle.

We no have time fe feel
fed up.

We use to set up chokie,
pringe, sling shot,

All kind a ways we use to
timk fe ketch birds,

White belly, white wing, ball
plate, barble dove,
blue quit,

Ground dove, janchewy,
woodpecker, beeny,

De beeny dem smart,

Dem always have a wasp nest
near dem nest as guard

Dem promise wasp one a dem
pickney as payment

Me memba wen we use to go
dung a de poco church,

Bwoy de man dem use to beat
de drum

An jump poco revival sweet

Wen dem start sing dis yah
song yah!

Read de 89 psalm, read de 89
psalm,

De 24 verse Deuteronomy 10
and 14

Read Matthew 5 and 17,
Revelation 19 and 10,

Read Amos 1st, de second
and de 7, Peter 1 and 21

De prophecy tell us to learn
dem to learn dem

De prophecy tell us to learn
dem and keep dem in our minds.

Me memba wen dem hav nine night,
we get fry fish

And hard doh bread, chocolate
or coffee, tea

Yu hear man call som tune from
dem Sankey

Som a sing com wi go dung a
Manuwell Road

Gal and bwoy fe go bruck rock
stone,

And Uncle Rufus sen mi dung
a river side fe go hear dem
sing

Dem can't sing a tall; de
reason why dem want more rum.

Bwoy dem days de use to sweet.



Me memba wen we use to ena
4H Club,

We use to get bees, pigs,
rabbit, fowl,

An all dem ting de fe look
after.

One day, more dan all

We a look after de bees so
we tek out som hony fe eat.

One a dem bwoy no mek sure
im smoke off all de bees

Im bite de hony comb wid bees
pon da

De bees bite im ina im mout

Im Bawl out WOH, WOH, mi mout,
mi mout,

And spit out de whole a it.

Wen we go all a wood bush we
roast breadfruit an pear,

We eat quava, tinken toe,
jimbilan, sweet cup, custard
apple

So till de whole a dem clide me,

We hav seweet sap, sour sap,
sweet cup,

Grape fruit, jack fruit, tamarind

Dem we boil jackfruit seed
ina black pan,

Bwoy dem da days use to sweet

Bwoy me memba wen use to go
draw boat,

We hav dumpling an ackee an
salfish galore;

Som a de dumpling dem use
to be so big we call dem cog
or cart weel,

Den wen man belly full, som
a back, som a front

Pon rope boat ina middle.

Yu hear de shell from miles
away,

An wen we want everybody fe
pull de sam way we chant:

One One One me ninny man ohoo!!!

Ole time sinting com back again
ohoo!!!

Me nah nah nah ohoo!!!

Man a carry boat weh truck
can com pick it up;

Rope bus over an over before
boat reach roadside.

Wen de sound enho more man
a run com help an all yu he
hear a:

One One One me ninny man ohoo!!!
Ole time sinting com backagain
ohoo!!!

Me nah nah nah ohoo!!!

Bwoy dem days da use to sweet.

Me memba all chrismus time
clapas

She bum, starlite, den
hankono dem dress up

pretty,
Som eva tings like horse, som
like cow, som like
dragon,

Den nock drum an dance wid
den choppa an spear.

Som a we use to frighten fe
dem so wi stay ena de house
a peep tru winda,

Who no fraid use follow dem
fe miles.

Bwoy dem days da use to
sweet.

Man da a England can't even
find place fe go

Most a de time yu hav fe ina
house like mouse

Wen it no too cold it a rain.

Back a yard wen rain start
fall

We dis put on som old clothe
and gone a mango bush

or gone ketch janga.

De rain water so warm an nice.

Ova yah man can't mek rain
wet dem

Kause five minutes later yu

start cough, yu feel
chilly,

saps a cold yu ketch.

If yu no mine sharp it tun
ina pneumonia.

An nung we ova yah de man dem
a treaten we wid repatriation

Little did they know its no
threat to me,

If fact if dem woulda carry
out de threat

I would count it as a
blessing

For me dying fe go home

But tings so rough me can't
find me passage

So tell de sa John Crow want
fe go a Lowden

So dem can blow east wind.

A SEARCHLIGHT PAMPHLET

30p

WOMEN AND THE NATIONAL FRONT



Review of Women and the National
Front.

The pamphlet's aim is to show
how the National Front's attitude
to women follows classic
racist/fascist lines, that is
that women should mainly be
confined to domestic life

bearing and bringing up
children for the state,
and to try to understand

how and why the N.F. have
a great deal of support from
white women.

There is an introduction,
and the various sections
begin with one on Race and
Birth control.

This quotes the N.F. -
"The building of large
families is looked upon
as healthy, desirable and
as a matter of pride."

A woman's task would then be

measured by her performance
as a mother. Women who decide
not to have children, or who
are unable to, would have low
status. The Front's attitude
to abortion is that it should
be made 'altogether illegal'
for white women that is.
Unlike the other anti-
abortion groups, the Front
is purely interested in
preventing the abortion of
white babies.

In 1976 Sir Keith Joseph,
a senior Conservative
politician, said "the
balance of our human stock
is being threatened by the
proportion of children born
into social classes four
and five."

They say it is 'anti
social' and 'anti family'
that a woman should have
children and go out to
work at the same time.

Women would become trapped as
child bearing and child rear-
ing machines-white women that
is, for their attitude
to black women is in line
with their line on all black
people, that "we are determined
to get the Jews and the
Blacks out of this country"
said Martin Webster, Chief
organiser of the National
Front.

The final sentence of the
pamphlet reads "In the
case of women, however much
we may feel we are different
from each other, and have
different expectations from
life now, we have far more in
common than we stand to lose
if we let racism and fascism
divide us".

Victory for Anti - Nazis

The second of two anti-racists
appealing against prison sen-
tence for their part in the
large mobilisations against
the National Front presence in
Brick Lane during the summer,
had his appeal upheld.

Gregory Tucker, from Tower
Hamlets, appeared in Knights-
bridge Crown Court before
Judge Warde in court 12, on a
charge of threatening behaviour.
He had previously been found
guilty before the chief
magistrate of Old Street,
Mr. Nichols.

The arrest took place on the
16th July, the day before the
widely supported one-day
strike against racism in the
East End of London.

This is the second ruling
and prison sentence against a
anti-racists by Nichols to
have been overthrown. It
brings into question still
further, the rulings handed
out this autumn to numerous
anti-racists. Many of these
have received heavy fines,
suspended sentences, and were
bound over, on charges under
the Public Order Act, a law
introduced ironically to curb
the activities of Moseley's
racist thugs, between the
wars.

A picket was held outside the
court throughout the day.
The Joint Committee of the
Hackney and Tower Hamlets
Defence Committee and the
Anti-Nazi league were
encouraged by the result, and
are continuing to collect
signatures in protest at
the arrests of the anti-
racists.

Hackney JAN. '79 Gasbag

I HAVE CHOSEN TO WRITE THIS REPORT SO THAT PARENTS OF OTHER SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN KNOW WHAT GOES ON IN SCHOOL.

SCHOOLS TODAY

I, the person writing this article have stuck up for my rights in school.

I was in school on November 25th and my friend and I were sitting at one table, and five other boys were sitting on the table behind me, and one of the boys spoke. I didn't know who it was, and the teacher said "You seven have got lines," although he knew who it was that spoke.

On December 5th, a week later only one boy brought in his lines. The teacher called

Then Mr S. the teacher who had wanted to cane me sent a note to my parents saying that your son has been suspended from school for refusing the cane. So I was suspended for the day.

My parents visited the school and talked to Mr S about my work and about me being suspended, and then I was told to do the lines which I didn't complete, and said "That's my fair share." Since then I have continued going to school as usual.

WHEN I WAS AT SCHOOL I WAS TAUGHT TO READ AND WRITE...

...THE HARD WAY

AND IT NEVER -

"DID ME ANY HARM!"



all the boys he gave lines to into his office. Even the boy who brought lines had to come into the office. The teacher said "Who's first for the cane?" All the boys stepped back except for me. Then the teacher said "Ha,----- You want to go first?" I said "No, I don't think so." He said "What do you mean?" I said "I am not taking the cane." He said "Ho." "You wish to escalate it." I said "No, I'm not going to take it." The teacher said "Go down to General Office and wait for me. When he came down I was waiting outside, and he said to me "Come in here with Mr M." Mr M. said "Show me your books sunny boy." I replied "I've only got two with me." Then Mr M told me to go and get the rest of my books.

WAIT FOR AN HOUR

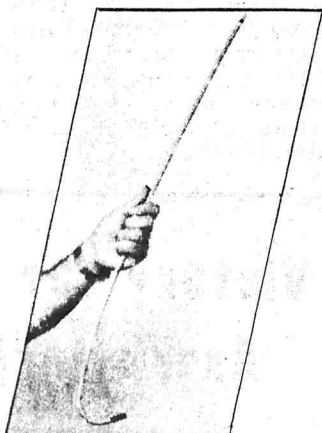
I went off and got my books. When I came back I had to wait for an hour for Mr M. and then he looked through my books and said "This is pretty good work. It seems a pity to let your work go to waste."



HERE IS ANOTHER REPORT.

I am 13 years old, and coloured and I go to Upton House school. In my school it is quite good, we've got a youth club which is very good. But some of the teachers are rotten, in other words they are bad.

The first deputy head is Mr Mattias. He sometimes seems bad tempered but he tries to hold it back. Deputyhead Mongowalks about with a cane up his sleeve.



About a month ago Mr Mattias was walking past my class. He saw me off my chair and he came in and asked me what I was doing off my chair, and I explained to him that I was picking up my pen which I had dropped. He said that I was talking rubbish, and told me to pick up all the rubbish in the corridors. AND THEN HE CANED ME EVEN AFTER I'D PICKED UP ALL THE RUBBISH.

THE FOLLOWING, THRILLING EPISODE IS THE FIRST OF MANY BLOCK-BUSTING EPISODES IN THE GASBAG WORLD-EXCLUSIVE STORY, ENTITLED...

WHODUNNIT?

Background
30 August, 1978 - a murder has been committed at Thaxton Hall, Suffolk. The unfortunate victim was Captain John Smedley-Jones, a retired Naval captain, who was the owner of a fortune of about 2 million pounds. The short-list of the possible murderers is; Mr. Ralph Smedley-Jones, Mr. Frederick Smedley-Jones, Miss Lulu Esanche, Mr. Adam Olgy and Mr. Simpkins. Suicide has been ruled out. There were two knife wounds in the deceased's back. An autopsy showed that the murder was committed at midnight.

Our story opens with the statements obtained by the detective in charge of the case, Det. N. O. Awl.

Statement from RALPH SMEDLEY-JONES

Possible motive-RSJ was the first-in-line to inherit his father's huge fortune. He was on a visit to Thaxton Hall to borrow some money. "On the day of my father's death, I, not being a very energetic sort of person, was relaxing in the house.

I got up at 11.00 am. I rose to find a quiet household. After inquiring about the silence, Simpkins our butler informed me that there was a staff shortage, and everyone was working hard. As Lulu our maid hadn't time to fix me some breakfast, I stepped into the kitchen and made myself a roll and coffee. After this I still felt tired and I had a SPLITTING headache, so I returned to my bedroom on the second floor, the one next to father's. Father, I think, was at this time in the drawing room.

When I rose from my nap, it was still light outside. The clock showed 3.50. I went downstairs, fully dressed, to the drawing room. I remember passing Lulu on the way, who was so startled that she dropped a vase!

Entering the drawing room, I saw grandfather sitting by the fire - almost smirking into it. The old fool's always doing that. He's completely gone, you know. Also in the room was my father.

I stayed in the drawing room for the warmth. After two or three minutes Lulu

came in. I fell asleep in the old armchair, but was awakened later by father for dinner. After dinner I asked father if he would take a walk round the grounds with me. He refused, and so, through politeness only, I asked grandfather. The man agreed, and said in about three hours. At 10.25 I was reading in the morning room, presuming that grandfather had forgotten, when he came in and asked if I was ready! Well, I said yes, and wheeled him once round the garden and into the summer house. I was there until 11.10 with him, when suddenly Lulu rushed in and cried that there was a fire in the Hall of Portraits. I rushed immediately up to the hall, where I discovered three oil paintings on fire; well smouldering. I checked that everything was alright, and walked back to the summer house, sorry that I had not been able to save the paintings. There I found Lulu, sobbing with shock. As I comforted her, Adam and Simpkins came rushing in the door - declaring that they had found father dead in the grounds...

TO BE CONTINUED...

Jokes

There was a poor man from Brazil, Who swallowed a dynamite pill, His heart retired, His backside backfired, And his balls flew over the hill.

There was a boy who wanted to go to the toilet so he asked his teacher if he could go, but his teacher told him to count up to ten, so he did. Then the teacher told him to say the alphabet, so he began... a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z. The teacher then said "Where's the p?" The boy said "It's running down my trouser leg."

What have you got if you have a green ball in one hand, and a green ball in the other? Total control over the Hulk.

Customer. Water, waiter, what's this fly doing in my soup? Waiter. It looks like the backstroke.

What do you give a stressed lemon? Lemonade, of course.

Customer. Waiter, waiter There's a fly in my soup. Waiter. Oh well, that will cost you more for the meat.

What is the fastest thing in the world? I don't know. Milk. Why? Because it is pasteurised (past your eyes) before you see it.

Knock, Knock who's there Shirley. Shirley who? Surely I don't need to tell you.

A Conversation. "Can February march?" "No, but April may."

Why has the Elephant got big ears? Because Noddy wouldn't pay the ransom.



"Nothing about how to vandalise it."

Knock, knock, Who's there? Martini Martini who? My tiny hands are cold.

Why do you go to bed? Because the bed can't come to you.

Knock, Knock, Who's there? Marcella Marcella who? My cellar is full of water.

information

All listings on this page are inserted absolutely FREE.
For the next issue, just send us your information by
FRIDAY 19 JANUARY

Write to Hackney People's Press, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, London E.8.

Community, Tenants and Pensioners Groups

HACKNEY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

34 Dalston Lane, E8
Advice service on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10.30 to 4pm. Tea Bar Monday to Friday 10.30 to 4pm.

TASK FORCE

34 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 1620
Free advice for pensioners in Hackney. Odd jobs and visits in N16 and N4 only. Pensioners' activities and neighbourhood care in N5.

HACKNEY ASSOCIATION FOR WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE

22 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 0715

HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT

74 Downham Road N1.
Social and advice centre, aimed particularly at black people.
Tuesday 10am-10pm
Thursday 10am-4.30pm
Friday 10am-10pm

OFF CENTRE

25 Hackney Grove, E8. Tel. 985 8566
Advice for young people between 13 and 25 with any problems.
Monday-Friday 10am-6pm (open until 8.30pm on Thursdays).

FRIENDS ANONYMOUS SERVICE

Friendship House, 27 Hackney Grove, E8.
24 hour telephone service with people always willing to listen and act.
986 2233 (24 hours)
985 0973 ()
986 9146 () (office hours)

FEDERATION OF HACKNEY TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS

Represents borough, GLC and private tenants throughout Hackney. Contact joint secretaries for details: Bob Darke, 154 Trelawney Estate, Paragon Road, E9 and Steve Jacobs, c/o ALHE, 17 Victoria Park Square, E2 (981 1221).

HACKNEY HOUSING ACTION GROUP

Concerned about the blight of homes left empty for long periods in Hackney and working to get them used. Contact Jon Webber, Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

HACKNEY GINGERBREAD

Group for one parent families. Meets every Monday at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16. Creche available. Contact Teresa Blackhall, 729 1647 for details.

HOMERTON GINGERBREAD

Group for one parent families. Meets every other Friday at the Wally Foster Centre. Contact 985 3972 for details.

HACKNEY UNITED TENANTS ASSOCIATION

c/o 35 Fimmere House, Woodberry Down, N4.

Women

HACKNEY ABORTION CAMPAIGN

Meetings fortnightly at 20 Parkholme Road, E8. Contact 249 3768 for details.

WOMEN'S CENTRE

1 Cazenove Road, N16.
Advice, creche, children's clothes swap shop, beginners photography, crafts, yoga, relaxation, consciousness raising groups, food co-op, alternative medicine, self-defence. Further information from 806 6664. All women welcome.

RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

Tel. 340 6145. 24 hour information and advice.

HACKNEY SOCIALIST FEMINIST GROUP

Meet alternate Mondays at the Factory, Matthias Road, N 16, at 7.30pm. Contact Pat 254 5821 or Harriet 254 6208.

HACKNEY TRADES COUNCIL WOMEN'S SUB COMMITTEE

Re-formed recently. Meets once a month. Contact Judy Newcombe, 254 0685 for details. All women and men welcome.

Health

CITY AND HACKNEY COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL

Shoreditch Health Centre, 210 Kingsland Road, E2. Tel. 739 6308/8351.
The public's voice in the NHS—provides advice, takes up your complaints and criticisms. Open meeting on 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm. Publishes HEALTH IN HACKNEY: a comprehensive FREE guide to health facilities and services in the area.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN HACKNEY

Advice, ideas, information. Trying to contact all families in district with a handicapped child. Contact Ann Purdon, 48 Mount Pleasant Lane, E5. Tel. 808 8438.

THE BIRTH CENTRE

188 Old Street, EC1. Tel. 251 4076.
Information, advice, lectures and seminars on birth at home and in hospital.
Open evening every Wednesday 8pm. 25p.

EAST LONDON WOMEN'S HEALTH GROUP

c/o 116 Albion Drive, E8.

STOKE NEWINGTON HEALTH GROUP

Local people interested in all matters concerned with health. Contact Alan Clarke, 21 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 3277.

COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION

188 Old Street, EC1. 251 4076.

Advice

Free legal advice on housing, landlord and tenant, employment, social security, welfare, matrimonial, immigration and discrimination problems can be obtained from the following centres:

CENTERPRISE

136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9632.
THURSDAYS 6.30-7.30pm.

HOXTON HALL

128a Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 5431.
WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm.

KINGSMEAD

Wally Foster Centre, Homerton High Street, E9. Tel. 985 3804.
TUESDAYS 7-8pm.

SNAGS

102 Manor Road, N16. Tel. 800 3770.
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm. (802 7949).

ALLEN ROAD

12 Allen Road, N16.
THURSDAYS 7-8pm.

Advice can also be obtained from:

HACKNEY ADVICE BUREAU & LAW CENTRE

236-8 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8446.
Open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm (7.30 on Thursdays).
Legal aid and advice on housing, rents, repairs and employment problems.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

1-11 Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 4654.
106 Old Street, EC1. Tel. 253 2155.

HACKNEY COUNCIL FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

245 Mare St, E8.
TUESDAYS 7-8.30pm.
Immigration, discrimination, housing law and other problems. 986 4121.

THE FAMILY CENTRE

50 Rectory Road, N16. Tel. 249 8334.
Information and help in all community problems. Cooking, washing, creche facilities. Open all day.

HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE

302-4 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8123.
Helps with all housing problems. Repairs, rebates, landlord/tenant, council/tenant.

HACKNEY CENTRAL INFORMATION BUREAU

Town Hall, Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 3123.

HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY ADVICE CENTRE

5 Stamford Hill, N16.
Advice and information on legal, financial, welfare, housing, social security and personal problems.
FRIDAYS 7-8pm.

RECTORY HOUSING AND WELFARE ADVICE CENTRE

Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N16.
Help with housing, employment, health and social security and community and race relations problems.
SUNDAYS 10.30am-12.00 noon.

Advice can also be obtained from HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT, OFF CENTRE and FRIENDS ANONYMOUS. See Community Groups listing on this page.

For MPs and councillors Advice surgeries see LABOUR PARTY under POLITICAL GROUPS listing on this page.

Arrested? Helping enquiries? Evicted?
EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICE
Ring 986 9891. 24 hour free legal service from 6pm Friday over whole weekend.

Education

SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

83 Eleanor Road, E8.
Contact Beverly Bowes for details.

ENGLISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6.30pm at Latin America Centre, 17 Hoxton Square, N1.

ADULT LITERACY SCHEMES

For details of adult literacy courses in your area contact:

Carol Morris, BETHNAL GREEN AEI, 229 Bethnal Green Road, E2. 739 7790.

Donald Kenrick, CLAPTON AEI, Brooke House, Kenninghall Road, E5. 985 9646.

Graham Morris, HACKNEY COLLEGE, 249 7221.

June Hewes, HACKNEY LIBRARIES, Shoreditch Library, Pitfield Street, N1. 739 5153.

Sue Shrapnel, HACKNEY READING CENTRE, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8. 254 9635.

Cal Weatherald, HIGHBURY MANOR AEI, Jack Ashley School, Blackstock Road, N4 226 9190.
John Rake, HOXTON HALL, 128a Hoxton Street, N1. 739 5431.

HACKNEY LANGUAGE SCHEME

Teach the kind of English needed in day-to-day life. Classes operate throughout Hackney. For further information contact Annette Giles, 249 1496, or call at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N.16 on Thursday mornings.

Political Groups

HACKNEY LABOUR PARTY HACKNEY NORTH AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Constituents advice service at 7pm every Friday at 5 Stamford Hill, N16 when local councillors are present. David Weitzmann, MP, also runs advice service every other Sunday at 11am. Ken Livingstone, GLC councillor, has advice service generally on 4th Thursday of each month.
Details from 5 Stamford Hill, N16. Tel. 800 7430.
HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact secretary, Mumtaz Khan, c/o 5 Stamford Hill, N16.

HACKNEY SOUTH & SHOREDITCH Constituents advice service at 7.30pm every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Ron Brown, MP, available 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Margaret Morgan, GLC Councillor, available 1st Friday of each month. Local councillors every Friday. Advice service also operates at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Blatchley Street, N1, at 7pm on 1st and 3rd Fridays. Ron Brown is present on 1st and 3rd Fridays. Margaret Morgan on 3rd Fridays, and local councillors on 1st and 3rd Fridays.
HACKNEY SOUTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact secretary c/o 96 Dalston Lane, E8.

HACKNEY CENTRAL Constituents advice service at 7.30pm every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Stanley Clinton Davis, MP, available every Friday. Ellis Hillman, GLC Councillor, available every other Friday. Local councillors every Friday.
HACKNEY CENTRAL LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact Mrs A Smith, 294 Navarino Mansions, E8.

HACKNEY YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE

Meets weekly. All young people welcome.
HACKNEY COMMUNIST PARTY Twelve branches hold meetings regularly throughout the borough. All welcome.

HACKNEY MORNING STAR GROUP

Meets weekly. Organises political, social and fund-raising events in support of Britain's socialist daily paper, the Morning Star. All Morning Star readers/supporters welcome.
For further information and a copy of the monthly newsletter detailing the meetings, campaigning actions etc. organised by the Hackney Morning Star group, Young Communist League and Communist Party contact David Green, 126 Amhurst Road, E8. Tel. 249 6374.

HACKNEY SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Meets regularly in the borough. Contact Liz 739 9772 for details.

LONDON WORKERS GROUP

For independent militants, working anarchists, and all those who wish to organise for direct workers control. Meets fortnightly. Contact Box W, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1, or ring Dave, 249 7042.

ANARCHY COLLECTIVE

Produces ANARCHY, a seasonal magazine on sale in Centerprise and Rising Free, 20p. Also involved in general anarchist activity. Ring 359 4794 before 8pm.

LIBERTARIAN COMMUNIST GROUP

c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION

Box 11, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1.

SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING

Hackney/Islington Branch. Contact Maureen Taylor or Mon Lawlor (263 4359 during daytime). SACU is open to anyone who favours friendship and understanding between Britain and socialist China.

HACKNEY COMMITTEE AGAINST RACIALISM

All-party anti-racist campaign. Meets first Wednesday of each month at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN HACKNEY GROUP

Meets second Thursday of every month at 8pm at Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street E8.

HACKNEY AND ISLINGTON WORLD DEVELOPMENT MOVEMENT

Campaigns on third world issues, especially against the Arms Trade to these countries.

NEW COMMUNIST PARTY

Hackney Branch meets on a Tuesday night at Centerprise, 8pm. Information from NCP, 395 Walworth Road, SE17 2AW.

Hackney Socialist Challenge

Supporters Group meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Britannia, Mare St.
4 Jan; The social workers' dispute (speaker from Tower Hamlets NALGO).
18 Jan; Socialists and nuclear power (speaker from Socialist Environmental Resources Association).
Further details from Hackney SC, c/o PO Box 50, London N.1. or from Martin, 359 8180 (day).

Men

DALSTON MEN'S GROUP

Contact Pete, 39 Parkhome Road, E8. Tel. 249 3072.

EAST LONDON/BRIXTON MEN'S GROUP

Contact Paul, 12 Montague Road, E8. Tel. 254 9497.

EAST LONDON MEN'S CENTRE

19 Redmans Road, E1. Tel. 790 2454.



Children

HACKNEY UNDER FIVES

136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9145.
Information and support for parents with children below school age. Contact Midge Harte. Stores are available every Saturday from 10am-12.30pm. Open monthly meetings first Tuesday of every month at 8pm. in Centerprise.

HACKNEY PLAY ASSOCIATION

136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9145.
Information, advice and help to people organising play facilities for children. Contact Cheryl Broadway or Mo Ross.

CHILD-CARE BULLETIN COLLECTIVE

112b Forest Road E8.
Publishes bulletins and pamphlets about child care and related topics. Collective is open to anyone interested. Contact 226 0817 or 254 2227 for details of next meeting—with creche.

TOY LIBRARY

Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N.16. A new toy library for all children under 5. Play facilities tea. Every Tuesday 2-3.30pm. Contact Sue Corlett 806 1968.

Transport

HACKNEY PUBLIC TRANSPORT ACTION COMMITTEE

Meets regularly to discuss how to improve public transport in Hackney. Contact Tony Jacobs, 3 Hockley House, Morning Lane, E9. Tel. 986 2303.

HACKNEY CYCLISTS ACTION GROUP

Contact Tessa Bain, 10 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 4559

Gays

EAST LONDON FAGGOTS

Collective of gay socialists living and working in East London. Contact 19 Redmans Road, E1. Tel. 790 2454.

GAY SWITCHBOARD

Tel. 837 7324. 24 hour information and advice.

EAST LONDON CHE (Campaign for Homosexual Equality)

East London CHE welcomes gay women and men. For details phone John, 504 1110 or Kate, 539 2331.

GEMMA

GEMMA Group for Disabled Lesbians, including older women. Contact BM Box 5700, London. WC1V 6XX.

Food

TOWARDS JUPITER

191 Mare Street E8. 985 5394
Wholefood shop also selling books and crafts.

FOOD FOR ALL

3 Cazenove Road, N16. Tel. 806 4138.
Wholefood shop, also selling books and crafts. All food carries levy to support the women's centre next door (see WOMEN) and proposed school at 5 Cazenove Road.

HACKNEY SOCIETY

An amenity group, affiliated to the Civic Trust, concerned with Hackney's environment and architecture. Meets on the third Monday of each month.
Details from Chairman, David Batchelor, Tel. 985 7937 or Secretary, Robert Hill, 75 Glyn Road E5 Tel. 986 8761.

Music and Broadcasts

ISLINGTON & HACKNEY MUSIC WORKSHOP
Sing-song third Thursday every month, 8pm. F
The Florence, Florence Street, N1.

HACKNEY HOSPITAL RADIO

Programme schedule:
Mon-Fri 7pm-9pm Pop Show
9pm-11pm Easy Listening Show
Sunday 1pm-5pm Pop Shows
5pm-7pm Soul Show
7pm-10pm Sunday Supplement (local and international news, "In Bed with a Book", funnies and music.)

Hackney Radio Roadshow disco unit. Contact Bob Kingsley 539 6235 or Hackney Hospital Radio, 985 5555 ext 115.

small ads

Young woman early 20s, seeks accommodation in a Communal type household. Has a nine month old baby boy. Please contact Ann, 12 Cecilia Rd. Dalston, Hackney. Must be around this area.



The Island lives!



Some of the Landfield Estate residents in Operation Clean-Up helped along by the long arm of the law.

The island has not been demolished. It is now called Landfield Estate. The bowler-hatted rent-collector has been replaced by an estate officer called Tom. There is also a cleaner, John, whom I have always found most helpful. We still have our own school, called Benthall, and a few shops but there is no Baptist mission or midwife or public house.

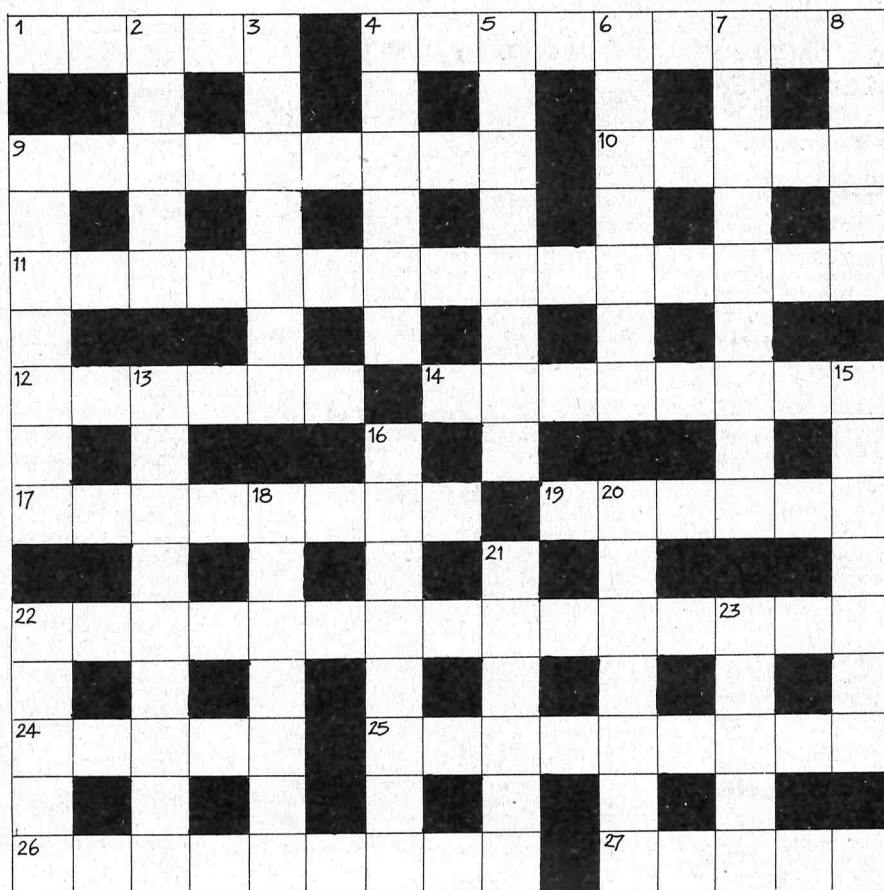
We are very unlucky not to have anywhere to meet on the estate so parties are non-existent, but there is talk of a new hall. The children are taken on outings by the "Landfield Childrens Action Group". Ted, Gerry and Ken have all my admiration for what they are doing for the children.

Everybody who lives in the area knows the site on the corner of Benthall Road and Evering Road. Up to four weeks ago this was the local rubbish dump, but not any more. A group of us were fed up with the Hackney

Borough Council's failure to clean it up, so on the unforgettable 18th of November we moved in with spades, forks and brooms for 'Operation Clean-up'. We had plenty of help from the children. So far the money for the skips and fencing has come out of our own pockets, but we have applied to the Council for a grant from the People in Partnership fund. We are all praying for the money as we have had only £11.15 in donations and have so far spent £246. We have had only one major set-back so far. On Sunday 17th., December after working all weekend putting up a fence to G.L.C. standards, vandals came along after we left and kicked the fence down which was very upsetting. But as you can see, the Island is alive and well and living on Landfield Estate.

Linda Klausner

HPP CROSSWORD 5



ACROSS

1. Audibly asks for Asian sect (5)
4. Nixon's was deleted (9)
9. Belated confusion about sailor - that's open to argument (9)
10. It turns both ways (5)
11. Business of maintaining an image common to all the family (6-8)
12. Bridegroom may - in church without ring (6)
14. That's novel, by George! (4,4)
17. Sent round foreign cash as a deposit (8)
19. Public takes in upper class image (6)
22. Local transport? (7,8)
24. Chief monk previously (5)
25. Candour displayed in loud row beside loch (9)

26. Police don't have such weapons (5-4)
27. Return product (5)

DOWN

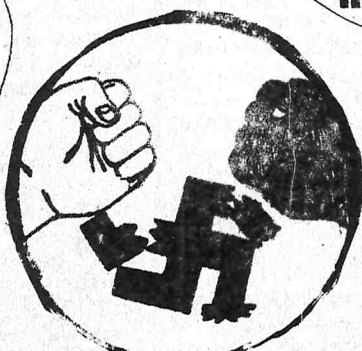
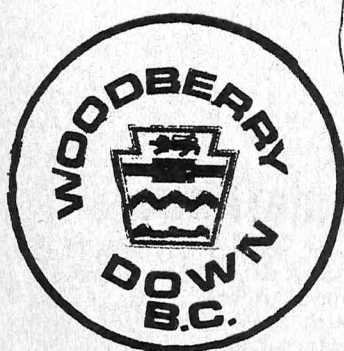
2. B-bake unusual Turkish dish (5)
3. Spell of brooding (7)
4. Get me up on ship (6)
5. Like an easily compiled crossword, we hear - forestall... (8)
6. ...printer's mistake - tear rum spelling out (7)
7. Withdrawn type-traveller in dry surrounding (9)
8. Some hear N. St John-Stevan's belittling gains by Labour (5)
9. Portrays saga in deeply tragic stanzas initially (7)

13. Budge an inch? I do in S.E. Asia (4-5)
15. Cricket team's morning coffee (7)
- 16 & 23. Organ transplant provoking retaliation? (2,3,3,2,3)
18. Mix lime with rain for soft drink? Not I (7)
20. Jailer finds head of newt in Christmas dinner (7)
21. Tin (old guinea) provided for waterways (6)
22. Desire to set up oriental shop? (5)
23. See 16.

A mystery prize will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution drawn on Monday 22 January.

BADGES Your own design

Badges made to your own design. Either individual designs or up to 200 the same. 2 1/4" across. 15p each (price negotiable). Ring Chris on 254 1306.



It begins when you sink into his arms, and ends with your arms in his sink!

Has the Hackney People's Press publicity machine fitted you out yet?

T-shirts, badges, biros and posters are all available very cheaply at cost price. If you want to see HPP being a better community paper then help advertise it! Ask for our publicity material at Centerprise bookshop.

Cheap stencil cutting and duplicating available. Ring Chris on 254 1306.

We apologise for the late arrival of this month's HPP. This has been caused by the Christmas and New Year holidays. However we hope to be back on schedule with the February issue, which will be published on Saturday 3 February.

Meanwhile a Happy New Year to all our readers!

Please send me a year's subscription to HPP. I enclose a cheque/PO for £2 made out to HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS.

Send to HPP, c/o 136 Kingsland High St, E8

Name _____

Address _____